**When Torah explains Archaeology**

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**לעילוי נשמת אברהם בן מנחם משה**

1. **מלכים ב יח**

**א** וַיְהִי בִּשְׁנַת שָׁלֹשׁ לְהוֹשֵׁעַ בֶּן-אֵלָה מֶלֶךְ יִשְׂרָאֵל מָלַךְ חִזְקִיָּה בֶן-אָחָז מֶלֶךְ יְהוּדָה: **ב** בֶּן-עֶשְׂרִים וְחָמֵשׁ שָׁנָה הָיָה בְמָלְכוֹ וְעֶשְׂרִים וָתֵשַׁע שָׁנָה מָלַךְ בִּירוּשָׁלָם וְשֵׁם אִמּוֹ אֲבִי בַּת-זְכַרְיָ: **ג** וַיַּעַשׂ הַיָּשָׁר בְּעֵינֵי ה’ כְּכֹל אֲשֶׁר-עָשָׂה דָּוִד אָבִיו: **ד** הוּא הֵסִיר אֶת-הַבָּמוֹת וְשִׁבַּר אֶת-הַמַּצֵּבֹת וְכָרַת אֶת-הָאֲשֵׁרָה וכִתַּת- נְחַשׁ הַנְּחֹשֶׁת אֲשֶׁר-עָשָׂה מֹשֶׁה כִּי עַד-הַיָּמִים הָהֵמָּה הָיוּ בְנֵי-יִשְׂרָאֵל מְקַטְּרִים לוֹ וַיִּקְרָא-לוֹ נְחֻשְׁתָּן: **ה** בַּה' אֱ-לֹהֵי-יִשְׂרָאֵל בָּטָח וְאַחֲרָיו לֹא-הָיָה כָמֹהוּ בְּכֹל מַלְכֵי יְהוּדָה וַאֲשֶׁר הָיוּ לְפָנָיו: **ו** וַיִּדְבַּק בַּה' לֹא-סָר מֵאַחֲרָיו וַיִּשְׁמֹר מִצְוֹתָיו אֲשֶׁר-צִוָּה ה' אֶת-מֹשֶׁה: **ז** וְהָיָה ה' עִמּוֹ בְּכֹל אֲשֶׁר-יֵצֵא יַשְׂכִּיל וַיִּמְרֹד בְּמֶלֶךְ-אַשּׁוּר וְלֹא עֲבָדוֹ: **ח** הוּא-הִכָּה אֶת-פְּלִשְׁתִּים עַד-עַזָּה וְאֶת-גְּבוּלֶיהָ מִמִּגְדַּל נוֹצְרִים עַד-עִיר מִבְצָר: **ט** וַיְהִי בַּשָׁנָה הָרְבִיעִית לַמֶּלֶךְ חִזְקִיָּהוּ הִיא הַשָּׁנָה הַשְּׁבִיעִית לְהוֹשֵׁעַ בֶּן-אֵלָה מֶלֶךְ יִשְׂרָאֵל עָלָה שַׁלְמַנְאֶסֶר מֶלֶךְ-אַשּׁוּר עַל-שֹׁמְרוֹן וַיָּצַר עָלֶיהָ: **י** וַיִּלְכְּדֻהָ מִקְצֵה שָׁלֹשׁ שָׁנִים בִּשְׁנַת-שֵׁשׁ לְחִזְקִיָּה הִיא שְׁנַת-תֵּשַׁע לְהוֹשֵׁעַ מֶלֶךְ יִשְׂרָאֵל נִלְכְּדָה שֹׁמְרוֹן: **יא** וַיֶּגֶל מֶלֶךְ-אַשּׁוּר אֶת-יִשְׂרָאֵל אַשּׁוּרָה וַיַּנְחֵם בַּחְלַח וּבְחָבוֹר נְהַר גּוֹזָן וְעָרֵי מָדָי: **יב** עַל אֲשֶׁר לֹא-שָׁמְעוּ בְּקוֹל ה’ אֱ-לֹהֵיהֶם וַיַּעַבְרוּ אֶת-בְּרִיתוֹ אֵת כָּל-אֲשֶׁר צִוָּה מֹשֶׁה עֶבֶד ה’ וְלֹא שָׁמְעוּ וְלֹא עָשׂוּ: **יג** וּבְאַרְבַּע- עֶשְׂרֵה שָׁנָה לַמֶּלֶךְ חִזְקִיָּהוּ עָלָה סַנְחֵרִיב מֶלֶךְ-אַשּׁוּר עַל כָּל-עָרֵי יְהוּדָה הַבְּצֻרוֹת וַיִּתְפְּשֵׂם: **יד** וַיִּשְׁלַח חִזְקִיָּה מֶלֶךְ-יְהוּדָה אֶל-מֶלֶךְ-אַשּׁוּר- לָכִישָׁה לֵאמֹר חָטָאתִי שׁוּב מֵעָלַי אֵת אֲשֶׁר-תִּתֵּן עָלַי אֶשָּׂא וַיָּשֶׂם מֶלֶךְ-אַשּׁוּר עַל-חִזְקִיָּה מֶלֶךְ-יְהוּדָה שְׁלֹשׁ מֵאוֹת כִּכַּר-כֶּסֶף וּשְׁלֹשִׁים כִּכַּר זָהָב: **טו** וַיִּתֵּן חִזְקִיָּה אֶת-כָּל-הַכֶּסֶף הַנִּמְצָא בֵית-ה’ וּבְאוֹצְרוֹת בֵּית הַמֶּלֶךְ: **טז** בָּעֵת הַהִיא קִצַּץ חִזְקִיָּה אֶת-דַּלְתוֹת הֵיכַל ה’ וְאֶת-הָאֹמְנוֹת אֲשֶׁר צִפָּה חִזְקִיָּה מֶלֶךְ יְהוּדָה וַיִּתְּנֵם לְמֶלֶךְ אַשּׁוּר: **יז** וַיִּשְׁלַח מֶלֶךְ-אַשּׁוּר אֶת-תַּרְתָּן וְאֶת-רַב-סָרִיס- וְאֶת-רַבְשָׁקֵה מִן-לָכִישׁ אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ חִזְקִיָּהוּ בְּחֵיל כָּבֵד יְרוּשָׁלָם וַיַּעֲלוּ וַיָּבֹאוּ יְרוּשָׁלַם וַיַּעֲלוּ וַיָּבֹאוּ וַיַּעַמְדוּ בִּתְעָלַת הַבְּרֵכָה הָעֶלְיוֹנָה אֲשֶׁר בִּמְסִלַּת שְׂדֵה כוֹבֵס: **יח** וַיִּקְרְאוּ אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ וַיֵּצֵא אֲלֵהֶם אֶלְיָקִים בֶּן-חִלְקִיָּהוּ אֲשֶׁר עַל-הַבָּיִת וְשֶׁבְנָה הַסֹּפֵר וְיוֹאָח בֶּן-אָסָף הַמַּזְכִּיר: **יט** וַיֹּאמֶר אֲלֵהֶם רַבְשָׁקֵה אִמְרוּ-נָא אֶל-חִזְקִיָּהוּ כֹּה-אָמַר הַמֶּלֶךְ הַגָּדוֹל מֶלֶךְ אַשּׁוּר מָה הַבִּטָּחוֹן הַזֶּה אֲשֶׁר בָּטָחְתָּ: **כ** אָמַרְתָּ אַךְ-דְּבַר שְׂפָתַיִם עֵצָה וּגְבוּרָה לַמִּלְחָמָה עַתָּה עַל-מִי בָטַחְתָּ כִּי מָרַדְתָּ בִּי: **כא** עַתָּה הִנֵּה בָטַחְתָּ לְּךָ עַל-מִשְׁעֶנֶת- הַקָּנֶה הָרָצוּץ הַזֶּה עַל-מִצְרַיִם אֲשֶׁר יִסָּמֵךְ אִישׁ עָלָיו וּבָא בְכַפּוֹ וּנְקָבָהּ כֵּן פַּרְעֹה מֶלֶךְ-מִצְרַיִם לְכָל-הַבֹּטְחִים עָלָיו: **כב** וְכִי-תֹאמְרוּן אֵלַי אֶל-ה’ אֱ-לֹהֵינוּ בָּטָחְנוּ הֲלוֹא-הוּא אֲשֶׁר הֵסִיר חִזְקִיָּהוּ אֶת-בָּמֹתָיו וְאֶת-מִזְבְּחֹתָיו וַיֹּאמֶר לִיהוּדָה וְלִירוּשָׁלַם לִפְנֵי הַמִּזְבֵּחַ הַזֶּה תִּשְׁתַּחֲווּ בִּירוּשָׁלָם: **כג** וְעַתָּה הִתְעָרֶב נָא אֶת-אֲדֹנִי אֶת-מֶלֶךְ אַשּׁוּר וְאֶתְּנָה לְךָ אַלְפַּיִם סוּסִים אִם-תּוּכַל לָתֶת לְךָ רֹכְבִים עֲלֵיהֶם: **כד** וְאֵיךְ תָּשִׁיב אֵת פְּנֵי פַחַת אַחַד עַבְדֵי אֲדֹנִי הַקְּטַנִּים וַתִּבְטַח לְךָ עַל-מִצְרַיִם לְרֶכֶב וּלְפָרָשִׁים: **כה** עַתָּה הֲמִבַּלְעֲדֵי ה’ עָלִיתִי עַל-הַמָּקוֹם הַזֶּה לְהַשְׁחִתוֹ ה’ אָמַר אֵלַי עֲלֵה עַל-הָאָרֶץ הַזֹּאת וְהַשְׁחִיתָהּ: **כו** וַיֹּאמֶר אֶלְיָקִים בֶּן-חִלְקִיָּהוּ וְשֶׁבְנָה וְיוֹאָח אֶל-רַבְשָׁקֵה דַּבֶּר-נָא אֶל-עֲבָדֶיךָ אֲרָמִית כִּי שֹׁמְעִים אֲנָחְנוּ וְאַל-תְּדַבֵּר עִמָּנוּ יְהוּדִית בְּאָזְנֵי הָעָם אֲשֶׁר עַל-הַחֹמָה: **כז** וַיֹּאמֶר אֲלֵיהֶם רַבְשָׁקֵה הַעַל אֲדֹנֶיךָ וְאֵלֶיךָ שְׁלָחַנִי אֲדֹנִי לְדַבֵּר אֶת-הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה הֲלֹא עַל-הָאֲנָשִׁים הַיֹּשְׁבִים עַל-הַחֹמָה לֶאֱכֹל אֶת-(חֹרָיהָם) [צוֹאָתָם] וְלִשְׁתּוֹת אֶת-(שֵׁיֵנַיְ ֵהֶם) [מֵימֵי] רַגְלֵיהֶם עִמָּכֶם: **כח** וַיַּעֲמֹד רַבְשָׁקֵה וַיִּקְרָא בְקוֹל-גָּדוֹל יְהוּדִית וַיְדַבֵּר וַיֹּאמֶר שִׁמְעוּ דְּבַר-הַמֶּלֶךְ הַגָּדוֹל מֶלֶךְ אַשּׁוּר: **כט** כֹּה אָמַר הַמֶּלֶךְ אַל-יַשִּׁיא לָכֶם חִזְקִיָּהוּ כִּי-לֹא יוּכַל לְהַצִּיל אֶתְכֶם מִיָּדוֹ: **ל** וְאַל-יַבְטַח אֶתְכֶם חִזְקִיָּהוּ אֶל-ה’ לֵאמֹר הַצֵּל יַצִּילֵנוּ ה’ וְלֹא תִנָּתֵן אֶת-הָעִיר הַזֹּאת בְּיַד מֶלֶךְ אַשּׁוּר:**לא** אַל-תִּשְׁמְעוּ אֶל-חִזְקִיָּהוּ כִּי- כֹה אָמַר מֶלֶךְ אַשּׁוּר עֲשׂוּ אִתִּי בְרָכָה וּצְאוּ אֵלַי וְאִכְלוּ אִישׁ-גַּפְנוֹ וְאִישׁ תְּאֵנָתוֹ וּשְׁתוּ אִישׁ מֵי-בֹרוֹ: **לב** עַד-בֹּאִי- וְלָקַחְתִּי אֶתְכֶם אֶל-אֶרֶץ כְּאַרְצְכֶם אֶרֶץ- דָּגָן וְתִירוֹשׁ אֶרֶץ לֶחֶם וּכְרָמִים אֶרֶץ זֵית יִצְהָר וּדְבַשׁ וִחְיוּ וְלֹא תָמֻתוּ וְאַל-תִּשְׁמְעוּ אֶל-חִזְקִיָּהוּ כִּי-יַסִּית אֶתְכֶם לֵאמֹר ה’ יַצִּילֵנוּ: **לג** הַהַצֵּל הִצִּילוּ אֱלֹהֵי הַגּוֹיִם אִישׁ אֶת-אַרְצוֹ מִיַּד מֶלֶךְ אַשּׁוּר:  **לד** אַיֵּה- אֱלֹהֵי חֲמָת וְאַרְפָּד אַיֵּה אֱלֹהֵי סְפַרְוַיִם הֵנַע וְעִוָּה כִּי-הִצִּילוּ אֶת-שֹׁמְרוֹן מִיָּדִי: **לה** מִי בְּכָל-אֱלֹהֵי הָאֲרָצוֹת אֲשֶׁר-הִצִּילוּ אֶת-אַרְצָם מִיָּדִי כִּי-יַצִּיל ה’ אֶת-יְרוּשָׁלַם מִיָּדִי: **לו** וְהֶחֱרִישׁוּ הָעָם וְלֹא-עָנוּ אֹתוֹ דָּבָר כִּי-מִצְוַת הַמֶּלֶךְ הִיא לֵאמֹר לֹא תַעֲנֻהוּ: **לז** וַיָּבֹא אֶלְיָקִים בֶּן-חִלְקִיָּה אֲשֶׁר-עַל-הַבַּיִת וְשֶׁבְנָא הַסֹּפֵר וְיוֹאָח בֶּן-אָסָף הַמַּזְכִּיר אֶל-חִזְקִיָּהוּ קְרוּעֵי בְגָדִים וַיַּגִּדוּ לוֹ אֵת דִּבְרֵי רַבְשָׁקֵה:

**1** Now it came to pass in the third year of Hoshea son of Elah king of Israel, that Hezekiah the son of Ahaz king of Judah began to reign. **2** Twenty and five years old was he when he began to reign; and he reigned twenty and nine years in Jerusalem; and his mother's name was Abi the daughter of Zechariah. **3** And he did that which was right in the eyes of the LORD, according to all that David his father had done. **4** He removed the high places, and broke the pillars, and cut down the Asherah; and he broke in pieces the brazen serpent that Moses had made; for unto those days the children of Israel did offer to it; and it was called Nehushtan. **5** He trusted in the LORD, the God of Israel; so that after him was none like him among all the kings of Judah, nor among them that were before him. **6** For he cleaved to the LORD, he departed not from following Him, but kept His commandments, which the LORD commanded Moses. **7** And the LORD was with him: whithersoever he went forth he prospered; and he rebelled against the king of Assyria, and served him not. **8** He smote the Philistines unto Gaza and the borders thereof, from the tower of the watchmen to the fortified city. **{P}****9** And it came to pass in the fourth year of king Hezekiah, which was the seventh year of Hoshea son of Elah king of Israel, that Shalmaneser king of Assyria came up against Samaria, and besieged it. **10** And at the end of three years they took it; even in the sixth year of Hezekiah, which was the ninth year of Hoshea king of Israel, Samaria was taken. **11** And the king of Assyria carried Israel away unto Assyria, and put them in Halah, and in Habor, on the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes; **12** because they hearkened not to the voice of the LORD their God, but transgressed His covenant, even all that Moses the servant of the LORD commanded, and would not hear it, nor do it. **{P}****13** Now in the fourteenth year of king Hezekiah did Sennacherib king of Assyria come up against all the fortified cities of Judah, and took them. **14** And Hezekiah king of Judah sent to the king of Assyria to Lachish, saying: 'I have offended; return from me; that which thou puttest on me will I bear.' And the king of Assyria appointed unto Hezekiah king of Judah three hundred talents of silver and thirty talents of gold. **15** And Hezekiah gave him all the silver that was found in the house of the LORD, and in the treasures of the king's house. **16** At that time did Hezekiah cut off the gold from the doors of the temple of the LORD, and from the door-posts which Hezekiah king of Judah had overlaid, and gave it to the king of Assyria. **{P}** **17** And the king of Assyria sent Tartan and Rab-saris and Rab-shakeh from Lachish to king Hezekiah with a great army unto Jerusalem. And they went up and came to Jerusalem. And when they were come up, they came and stood by the conduit of the upper pool, which is in the highway of the fullers' field. **18** And when they had called to the king, there came out to them Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, who was over the household, and Shebnah the scribe, and Joah the son of Asaph the recorder. **19** And Rab-shakeh said unto them: 'Say ye now to Hezekiah: Thus saith the great king, the king of Assyria: What confidence is this wherein thou trustest? **20** Sayest thou that a mere word of the lips is counsel and strength for the war? Now on whom dost thou trust, that thou hast rebelled against me? **21** Now, behold, thou trustest upon the staff of this bruised reed, even upon Egypt; whereon if a man lean, it will go into his hand, and pierce it; so is Pharaoh king of Egypt unto all that trust on him. **22** But if ye say unto me: We trust in the LORD our God; is not that He, whose high places and whose altars Hezekiah hath taken away, and hath said to Judah and to Jerusalem: Ye shall worship before this altar in Jerusalem? **23** Now therefore, I pray thee, make a wager with my master the king of Assyria, and I will give thee two thousand horses, if thou be able on thy part to set riders upon them. **24** How then canst thou turn away the face of one captain, even of the least of my masters servants? and yet thou puttest thy trust on Egypt for chariots and for horsemen! **25** Am I now come up without the LORD against this place to destroy it? The LORD said unto me: Go up against this land, destroy it.' **26** Then said Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, and Shebnah, and Joah, unto Rab-shakeh: 'Speak, I pray thee, to thy servants in the Aramean language; for we understand it; and speak not with us in the Jews' language, in the ears of the people that are on the wall.' **27** But Rab-shakeh said unto them: 'Hath my master sent me to thy master, and to thee, to speak these words? hath he not sent me to the men that sit on the wall, to eat their own dung, and to drink their own water with you?' **28** Then Rab-shakeh stood, and cried with a loud voice in the Jews' language, and spoke, saying: 'Hear ye the word of the great king, the king of Assyria. **29** Thus saith the king: Let not Hezekiah beguile you; for he will not be able to deliver you out of his hand; **30** neither let Hezekiah make you trust in the LORD, saying: The LORD will surely deliver us, and this city shall not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria. **31** Hearken not to Hezekiah; for thus saith the king of Assyria: Make your peace with me, and come out to me; and eat ye every one of his vine, and every one of his fig-tree, and drink ye every one the waters of his own cistern; **32** until I come and take you away to a land like your own land, a land of corn and wine, a land of bread and vineyards, a land of olive-trees and of honey, that ye may live, and not die; and hearken not unto Hezekiah, when he persuadeth you, saying: The LORD will deliver us. **33** Hath any of the gods of the nations ever delivered his land out of the hand of the king of Assyria? **34** Where are the gods of Hamath, and of Arpad? where are the gods of Sepharvaim, of Hena, and Ivvah? have they delivered Samaria out of my hand? **35** Who are they among all the gods of the countries, that have delivered their country out of my hand, that the LORD should deliver Jerusalem out of my hand?' **36** But the people held their peace, and answered him not a word; for the king's commandment was, saying: 'Answer him not.' **37** Then came Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, who was over the household, and Shebna the scribe, and Joah the son of Asaph the recorder, to Hezekiah with their clothes rent, and told him the words of Rab-shakeh.

1. **מלכים ב:יט**

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| **ה** וַיָּבֹאוּ עַבְדֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ חִזְקִיָּהוּ אֶל-יְשַׁעְיָהוּ: **ו** וַיֹּאמֶר לָהֶם יְשַׁעְיָהוּ כֹּה תֹאמְרוּן אֶל-אֲדֹנֵיכֶם כֹּה אָמַר ה’ אַל-תִּירָא מִפְּנֵי הַדְּבָרִים אֲשֶׁר שָׁמַעְתָּ אֲשֶׁר גִּדְּפוּ נַעֲרֵי מֶלֶךְ-אַשּׁוּר אֹתִי: **ז** הִנְנִי נֹתֵן בּוֹ רוּחַ וְשָׁמַע שְׁמוּעָה וְשָׁב לְאַרְצוֹ וְהִפַּלְתִּיו בַּחֶרֶב בְּאַרְצוֹ:  | **5** So the servants of king Hezekiah came to Isaiah.**6** And Isaiah said unto them: 'Thus shall ye say to your master: Thus saith the LORD: Be not afraid of the words that thou hast heard, wherewith the servants of the king of Assyria have blasphemed Me. **7**Behold, I will put a spirit in him, and he shall hear a rumour, and shall return to his own land; and I will cause him to fall by the sword in his own land |
| **לב** לָכֵן כֹּה-אָמַר ה’ אֶל-מֶלֶךְ אַשּׁוּר לֹא יָבוֹא אֶל-הָעִיר הַזֹּאת וְלֹא-יוֹרֶה שָׁם חֵץ וְלֹא-יְקַדְּמֶנָּה מָגֵן וְלֹא-יִשְׁפֹּךְ עָלֶיהָ סֹלְלָה: **לג** בַּדֶּרֶךְ אֲשֶׁר-יָבֹא בָּהּ יָשׁוּב וְאֶל-הָעִיר הַזֹּאת לֹא יָבֹא נְאֻם-ה’: **לד** וְגַנּוֹתִי אֶל-הָעִיר הַזֹּאת לְהוֹשִׁיעָהּ לְמַעֲנִי וּלְמַעַן דָּוִד עַבְדִּי: **לה** וַיְהִי בַּלַּיְלָה הַהוּא וַיֵּצֵא מַלְאַךְ ה’ וַיַּךְ בְּמַחֲנֵה אַשּׁוּר מֵאָה שְׁמוֹנִים וַחֲמִשָּׁה אָלֶף וַיַּשְׁכִּימוּ בַבֹּקֶר וְהִנֵּה כֻלָּם פְּגָרִים מֵתִים: **לו** וַיִּסַּע וַיֵּלֶךְ וַיָּשָׁב סַנְחֵרִיב מֶלֶךְ-אַשּׁוּר וַיֵּשֶׁב בְּנִינְוֵה: **לז** וַיְהִי- הוּא מִשְׁתַּחֲוֶה בֵּית נִסְרֹךְ אֱלֹהָיו וְאַדְרַמֶּלֶךְ וְשַׂרְאֶצֶר ( ָ ָ ) [בָּנָיו] הִכֻּהוּ בַחֶרֶב וְהֵמָּה נִמְלְטוּ אֶרֶץ אֲרָרָט וַיִּמְלֹךְ אֵסַר-חַדֹּן בְּנוֹ תַּחְתָּיו: |  **32** Therefore thus saith the LORD concerning the king of Assyria: He shall not come unto this city, nor shoot an arrow there, neither shall he come before it with shield, nor cast a mound against it. **33** By the way that he came, by the same shall he return, and he shall not come unto this city, saith the LORD. **34** For I will defend this city to save it, for Mine own sake, and for My servant David's sake.' **35** And it came to pass that night, that the angel of the LORD went forth, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians a hundred fourscore and five thousand; and when men arose early in the morning, behold, they were all dead corpses. **36** So Sennacherib king of Assyria departed, and went and returned, and dwelt at Nineveh. **37** And it came to pass, as he was worshipping in the house of Nisroch his god, that Adrammelech and Sarezer his sons smote him with the sword; and they escaped into the land of Ararat. And Esarhaddon his son reigned in his stead. **{P}** |

1. **רמב"ם בהלכות איסורי ביאה פרק יב הלכה כה:**

כשעלה סנחריב מלך אשור בלבל כל האומות ועירבם זה בזה והגלה אותם ממקומם, ואלו המצרים שבארץ מצרים עתה אנשים אחרים הם, וכן האדומים שבשדה אדום. והואיל ונתערבו ד' אומות האסורים בכל אומות העולם שהן מותרים - הותר הכל, שכל הפורש מהן להתגייר חזקתו שפירש מן הרוב, לפיכך כשיתגייר הגר בזמן הזה בכל מקום בין אדומי בין מצרי8 בין עמוני בין מואבי בין כושי בין שאר האומות, אחד הזכרים ואחד הנקבות - מותרין לבא בקהל מיד.

1. **Pesachim 56a**

**THINGS THAT CHACHAMIM DID NOT OBJECT TO**

**(a) (Beraisa):** Chachamim approved of three things that Chizkiyah did, and disapproved of three. They approved of the following:

**1.** He dragged the bones of his father (Achaz, a Rasha) around on ropes. (The disgrace atoned for him. Also, this chastised Resha'im);

**2.** He ground up the copper snake that Moshe had made [to save people who had been bitten by snakes. People had started to worship it];

**3.** He hid Sefer ha'Refu'os (Rashi - because people used it for quick cures, and did not turn to Hash-m to be healed. Rambam - astrologers determined which images would be helpful for which sicknesses. One may not use them.)

1. **Sanhedrin 60a**

Rab Judah said in Samuel's name: He who hears the Divine Name blasphemed by a gentile need not rend his clothes. But if you will object, what of Rab-Shakeh? — He was an apostate Israelite.

1. **Isaih 31:5**

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| As birds hovering, so will the LORD of hosts protect Jerusalem; He will deliver it as He protecteth it, He will rescue it as He passeth over | כְּצִפֳּרִים עָפוֹת כֵּן יָגֵן ה’ צְבָאוֹת עַל-יְרוּשָׁלָם גָּנוֹן וְהִצִּיל פָּסוֹחַ וְהִמְלִיט:  |

1. **Michah 1**

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| The word of the LORD that came to Micah the Morashtite in the days of Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, which he saw concerning Samaria and Jerusalem. | **א** דְּבַר-ה’ אֲשֶׁר הָיָה אֶל-מִיכָה הַמֹּרַשְׁתִּי בִּימֵי יוֹתָם אָחָז יְחִזְקִיָּה מַלְכֵי יְהוּדָה אֲשֶׁר-חָזָה עַל-שֹׁמְרוֹן וִירוּשָׁלָם |
| **5** For the transgression of Jacob is all this, and for the sins of the house of Israel. What is the transgression of Jacob? is it not Samaria? And what are the high places of Judah? are they not Jerusalem? | **ה** בְּפֶשַׁע יַעֲקֹב כָּל-זֹאת וּבְחַטֹּאות בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל מִי-פֶשַׁע יַעֲקֹב הֲלוֹא שֹׁמְרוֹן וּמִי בָּמוֹת יְהוּדָה הֲלוֹא יְרוּשָׁלָם |
| **9** For her wound is incurable; for it is come even unto Judah; it reacheth unto the gate of my people, even to Jerusalem.  | **ט** כִּי אֲנוּשָׁה מַכּוֹתֶיהָ כִּי-בָאָה עַד-יְהוּדָה נָגַע עַד-שַׁעַר עַמִּי עַד-יְרוּשָׁלָם:  |
|  **13** Bind the chariots to the swift steeds, O inhabitant of Lachish; she was the beginning of sin to the daughter of Zion; for the transgressions of Israel are found in theeLachish Relief | **יג** רְתֹם הַמֶּרְכָּבָה לָרֶכֶשׁ יוֹשֶׁבֶת לָכִישׁ רֵאשִׁית חַטָּאת הִיא לְבַת-צִיּוֹן כִּי-בָךְ נִמְצְאוּ פִּשְׁעֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל:  |

Sennacherib, the great king,

the mighty king,

king of the world,

king of Assyria,

king of the four quarters,

the wise shepherd,

favorite of the great gods,

guardian of right,

lover of justice,

who lends support,

who comes to the aid of the destitute,

who performs pious acts, perfect hero,

mighty man,

first among all princes,

the powerful one who consumes the insubmissive,who strikes the wicked with the thunderbolt.

In my third campaign, I went against the Hittite-land. Lulê, king of Sidon, the terrifying splendor of my sovereignty overcame him, and far off into the midst of the sea he fled. There he died. Great Sidon, Little Sidon, Bît-Zitti, Zaribtu, Mahalliba, Ushu, Akzib, Akko, his strong, walled cities, where there were fodder and drink, for his garrisons, the terrors of the weapon of AÅ¡Å¡ur, my lord, overpowered them and they bowed in submission at my feet. I seated Tuba'lu on the royal throne over them, and tribute, gifts for my majesty, I imposed upon him for all time, without ceasing.

From Menachem, the Shamsimurunite, Tuba'lu the Sidonite, Abdi-liti the Arvadite, Uru-milki the Gublite, Mitinti the Ashdodite Budu-ilu the Beth Ammonite, Kammusu-nadbi the Moabite, Malik-rammu the Edomite, kings of Amurru, all of them, numerous presents as their heavy tribute, they brought before me for the fourth time, and kissed my feet.

But Sidka, the king of Ashkelon, who had not submitted to my yoke, the gods of his father's house, himself, his wife, his sons, his daughters, his brothers, the seed of his paternal house, I tore away and brought to Assyria. Sharru-lu-dari, son of Rukibti, their former king, I set over the people of Ashkelon, and I imposed upon him the payment of tribute: presents to my majesty. He accepted my yoke. In the course of my campaign, Beth-Dagon, Joppa, Banaibarka, Asuru, cities of Sidka, who had not speedily bowed in submission at my feet, I besieged, I conquered, I carried off their spoil.

The officials, nobles, and people of [Ekron,](http://www.kchanson.com/ANCDOCS/meso/sennprism2.html%22%20%5Cl%20%22Ekr) who had thrown Padi their king—bound by oath and curse of Assyria— into fetters of iron and had given him over to Hezekiah, the Judahite—he kept him in confinement like an enemy— their heart became afraid,  and they called upon the Egyptian kings, the bowmen, chariots and horses of the king of Meluhha [Ethiopia], a countless host, and these came to their aid. In the neighborhood of Eltekeh, their ranks being drawn up before me,

hey offered battle. With the aid of AÅ¡Å¡ur, my lord, I fought with them and brought about their defeat. The Egyptian charioteers and princes, together with the Ethiopian king's charioteers, my hands captured alive in the midst of the battle. Eltekeh and Timnah I besieged, I captured, and I took away their spoil.

I approached Ekron and slew the governors and nobles who had rebelled, and hung their bodies on stakes around the city. The inhabitants who rebelled and treated (Assyria) lightly I counted as spoil. The rest of them, who were not guilty of rebellion and contempt, for whom there was no punishment, I declared their pardon. Padi, their king, I brought out to Jerusalem, set him on the royal throne over them, and imposed upon him my royal tribute.

As for Hezekiah the Judahite, who did not submit to my yoke: **forty-six of his strong, walled cities, as well as the small towns in their area, which were without number, by levelling with battering-rams and by bringing up seige-engines, and by attacking and storming on foot, by mines, tunnels, and breeches, I besieged and took them. 200,150 people, great and small, male and female, horses, mules, asses, camels, cattle and sheep without number, I brought away from them and counted as spoil. (Hezekiah) himself, like a caged bird I shut up in Jerusalem, his royal city**. I threw up earthworks against him— the one coming out of the city-gate, I turned back to his misery. His cities, which I had despoiled, I cut off from his land, and to Mitinti, king of Ashdod, Padi, king of Ekron, and Silli-bêl, king of Gaza, I gave (them). And thus I diminished his land. I added to the former tribute, and I lad upon him the surrender of their land and imposts—gifts for my majesty. As for Hezekiah, the terrifying splendor of my majesty overcame him, andthe Arabs and his mercenary troops which he had brought in to strengthen Jerusalem, his royal city, deserted him. In addition to the thirty talents of gold and eight hundred talents of silver, gems, antimony,  jewels, large carnelians, ivory-inlaid couches, ivory-inlaid chairs, elephant hides, elephant tusks, ebony, boxwood, all kinds of valuable treasures, as well as his daughters, his harem, his male and female musicians, which he had brought after me to Nineveh, my royal city. To pay tribute and to accept servitude, he dispatched his messengers.